

Cracklin' Static

November 2021 Edition



**Zoom Virtual
Meeting Sat Nov 6
8 AM
See pg 4....**

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesdays 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury Closing Balances As of 10-31-21

Account	
Operating	\$9,991
Savings	\$17,553
Self Insurance	\$13,080
PayPal	\$1,692
Convention	\$4,212
Total	\$46,528

Net Monthly	\$5,178
Net YTD	\$11,211

SNARS Membership as of 10-31-21

Extra	173	36%
General	156	33%
Technician	121	25%
Advanced	15	3%
No License	10	2%
License Expired	2	0%
Total	477	

SNARS ARRL Members

Regular	268	56%
Life	44	9%

PRESIDENT'S VOICE

President John Byerly, N7ROJ

Email: mtnlion@gmail.com



Hello Members!

Wow winter showed us it was coming in an especially nasty way! We got the precipitation in two days that we got LAST YEAR! We need the water, but all at once??

I have several things I want to cover here with you.

1. AJ6GC Krystal Rhoades has been the area VEC for a year now. Congratulations Krystal! Thank you for herding all us VE's so that we can do testing/upgrades and keep our hobby alive!

2. The great SNARS Storage shed move is complete. We have ROOM! It's not a small 5x7 closet that is scary as heck to open the door on and you have to empty it to FIND stuff. Thanks to all involved in that project, It wasn't easy!

3. Elections. We have a good amount of nominations. Thank you all who have agreed to run. It's good to see people who are willing to help keep us going as a club.

4. Thank you to all who have served in positions throughout the years as well!

5. Voting will start soon. I am sure we are all familiar with the Election Runner voting process now. It's easy, safe, and the system only lets you vote once so no voting early and often LOL

6. The great test equipment giveaway. Thanks to all who came out and rummaged. We MAY do one more after I get the darn BIG door open on the container. I am happy people took what they wanted so it doesn't get E-wasted

See you all at our Zoom meeting Saturday!

73 DE John N7ROJ



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
 Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family
 775.453.4142 <http://snars.org>

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President.....John Byerly, N7ROJ
 Vice-President.....John Miller N7JDM
 Treasurer.....Bill Jones, AE7OX
 Secretary.....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
 DirectorWes Vick, KG7QXE
 DirectorJim Shepherd, W6US
 DirectorBarry Bettman, K6ST

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Cracklin StaticHowie Holden, WB2AWQ
 W7TA TrusteePeter DeBay, KE7VSR
 KR7ENO Trustee.....Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
 Control OperatorPat Sheehan, W7DED
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 Tech Team LeadPat Sheehan, W7DED
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Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden WB2AWQ - holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Published the week before meetings. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 -PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 -PL 123.0	Winnemucca	Online
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	Offline

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Offline

Fusion Systems

146.610 - PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee. Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Online

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online

Online
 Offline
 Not Linked

Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
 147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
 147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
 444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
 146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
 146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
 147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday at 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newline	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Weak Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays
8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday, November 10,
6:00PM Location and mode Chin Chin, Sparks, and Zoom

HAM RADIO NIGHT on Zoom November 15, 7:00 PM ,
 see <https://snars.org/hamradionight/>

Next months SNARS Breakfast Meeting - December 4,
Location and media mode tentative depending on Board decision and local restrictions.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AS OF 10-31-21

Gary	Winer	W9AGW
Santiago	Santiago	KK7BKV
Rose	Beeler	KM7MYJ
Tim	Beeler	KM7MYK
Donald	Myers	KK7BKX
Don	Tucker	KK7BKW
James	Leonard	KA6KSN
Asuna	Gilfoyle	W2FUR
Vaughn	Post	KC7NXO
Mike	Plaziak	NS1TA

SNARS Virtual Monthly Meeting

SNARS (virtual on zoom conferencing) Monthly Meeting on
Saturday 11-6-21 8:00AM PDT

TOPIC:

Presentation: NanoVNA (Vector
Network Analyzer) with Rudi
K7RAW



Antennas are a critical part of any radio system. In fact, a good antenna can make a low-power transmitter sound better than a high power rig with a lousy antenna. With the recent introduction of the NanoVNA (Vector Network Analyzer) ham radio operators have a tremendous "Swiss Army Knife" for finally knowing what they're doing when they're messing with antennas. This seminar will be an introduction to using the NanoVNA for doing basic antenna tuning.

Here's what we'll cover:

- A. Overview of the capabilities of a generic VNA
- B. Quick review of the different NanoVNA versions
- C. A tour through the menu of my NanoVNA-F V2 (latest firmware version v0.3.0)
- D. Calibration tips & tricks
- E. Live video demonstration of tuning a vertical antenna
- F. Wrap up Q&A."

Be sure to have a pen and pencil handy to make notes because there will be a LOT of information presented."

TO REGISTER go to:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpdeyhqD0uE9WmogU7vyZ7i7pZndQwKnDQ>

Any questions, email Barry k6st@arri.net

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US nvjims@gmail.com

SWEEPSTAKES!

No, you won't have some celebrity carrying an oversized check and a bouquet of balloons ringing your doorbell, but you will have fun. The ARRL Ham Radio Sweepstakes are this month. There are actually 2 sweepstakes, the weekend of November 6 is the CW Sweepstakes and the weekend of November 20 is the Phone contest. These are separate contests so you do not need to work both.

The objective of the contest is to work as many hams in as many ARRL and Canadian RAC sections as possible. There are 84 combined sections, and working all of them is called a "Clean Sweep". The contest is held on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands, and you can work a station only once. Your score counts only the contacts made during your first 24 hours of operation. Off times greater than 30 minutes do not count as operating time. If you go to bed at midnight and get up and start operating again at 6 Sunday morning, that is 6 hours off time so you can operate the entire rest of the contest...

You are only allowed to work your first 24 hours on the air for credit. Breaks must be at least 30 minutes to count as time off. If you happen to work over 24 hours, don't worry and continue logging—those extra contacts don't count for you, but they might help some other ham get his Sweep. The big computer at ARRL will calculate your operating time from your computer generated Cabrillo formatted log.

The CW contest starts at 2100 UTC on Saturday November 6 which is 1400 Pacific Daylight time, and ends at 0259 UTC on Monday, November 8 which is actually 1859 Pacific Standard time on Sunday evening. The Phone contest starts at 2100 UTC on Saturday November 20 which is 1300 Pacific Standard time, and ends at 0259 UTC on Monday, November 22 which is actually 1859 Pacific Standard time on Sunday evening.

The exchange is a little complicated and changes with each contact. It consists of a consecutive serial number, a precedence letter, your call sign, a check number and your ARRL section designator. Most computer contest logging programs will generate the serial number. The precedence letter describes your operation: "Q" is used for single operator QRP, "A" is for single operator low power, "B" is for single operator high power, "U" is for single operator unlimited, "M" is for Multi-Operator, and "S" is for School Club. The check number is the last two digits of the year you were first licensed. My Phone sent exchange would be like this: "VE7JW I copy your 327 Bravo VE7JW 85 BC, please copy my 135 Alpha Whiskey Six Uniform Sierra 92 Nevada"

You can print out a list of all the sections and their proper abbreviations at <http://www.arrl.org/contest-sections-list>. This will help you enter the correct one into your logging program. This is the same list as we use for Field Day, the Nevada QSO Party, and I have laminated it back-to-back with the band plan <http://www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations> to make a handy reference. On voice, be prepared to clarify Nevada as "November Victor" for your contacts who do not know our state's abbreviation.

In a change from earlier years, you must send in your log within 7 days from the end of the contest. They really would prefer that you use the [web entry](#) for your electronic log as they can be immediately loaded into their computer. All logs must be uploaded or post-marked by 0259 UTC on November 15 for the CW contest or 0259 UTC on November 29. For those who do not have a computer contest logging program, you can get one for free from <https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/getting-started/downloading-the-software/>. The N1MM program is one of the best around and the price is right!

Strategy? During the daylight hour concentrate on 10 and 15 meters if they are open. After dark 160, 80 and 40 will be your best bets, especially to get the contiguous states that the higher frequencies skip right over. 20 meters is usually good during the day and well into the darker periods. If you are breaking pileups and having every one you call come right back, consider 'camping' on a frequency and calling CQ. Nevada is one of the rarer states, and especially early on and near the end, lots of hams will be looking for us as a multiplier. Listen to the pile-ups and if you are hearing the called station well, give 'em a try, especially if they are from one of the rarer sections. Northwest Territories, the Maritimes, Maine, Eastern Washington, Newfoundland, Maine and Nevada are some of harder to get sections. On 10 meters it is hard to get most of California, Oregon, and Idaho, so if you hear one, go for it!

Even if you are not serious about running the contest, this is a good opportunity to pick up some states for the Worked All States award as there will be lots of activity. If you are not interested in contesting, the WARC bands will be free of contest activity and will probably have some good DX as the DX stations are not part of this contest.

Any participation can help other operators and even the SNARS club, so go ahead and send in your log to both the contest and Logbook of the World. Your contest entry should list "Sierra Nevada ARS" as your club so we will show up in the listings.

Complete rules and other information can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>. ***Please let me know if you are going to enter this contest a couple of days BEFORE the start of the contest as I will need your callsign and 6 digit grid zone to get you on the list that I have to send to the ARRL before the start of the contest...*** If you have additional questions, feel free to contact me at nvjims@gmail.com any time except during the Phone Contest when I will be on the air with the internet and my phone shut off!

Last year's results can be found at: <https://contests.arrl.org/>

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER SIXTY ONE

Mike Katz, N7MSK

FCC Part §97.401 Operation during a disaster.

A station in, or within 92.6 km (50 nautical miles) of, Alaska may transmit emissions J3E and R3E on the channel at 5.1675 MHz (assigned frequency 5.1689 MHz) for emergency communications. The channel must be shared with stations licensed in the Alaska-Private Fixed Service. The transmitter power must not exceed 150 W PEP. A station in, or within 92.6 km of, Alaska may transmit communications for tests and training drills necessary to ensure the establishment, operation, and maintenance of emergency communication systems.

[71 FR 66465, Nov. 15, 2006]

§97.403 Safety of life and protection of property.

No provision of these rules prevents the use by an amateur station of any means of radiocommunication at its disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and immediate protection of property when normal communication systems are not available.

§97.405 Station in distress.

(a) No provision of these rules prevents the use by an amateur station in distress of any means at its disposal to attract attention, make known its condition and location, and obtain assistance.

(b) No provision of these rules prevents the use by a station, in the exceptional circumstances described in paragraph (a) of this section, of any means of radiocommunications at its disposal to assist a station in distress.

SHORT TAKES (By Jim Shepherd W6US)

CONTEST CALENDAR

The Sweepstakes are the big contests the first part of the month, see my article elsewhere in the newsletter. The CQ World Wide CW DX contest is the last weekend, November 27-28, and a good time to work on getting your DXCC or adding more countries to your log as well as practicing your high speed CW. The state QSO parties are done for the year and entries need to be submitted by November 30 for the State QSO Party Challenge. The results from the Nevada QSO Party should be published by the end of the month. These and other contests information can be found at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

DX

There are some operations starting to pick up. Maldives, Mauritius, Rwanda, St Kitts & Nevis, eSwatini, Mali, and St Bartelemy are some of the featured DX operations. The CQ WW CW contest will bring out a lot of countries on CW and will provide good opportunities to add some countries to your log. More information can be found at <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

THIRD MONDAY ZOOM HAM RADIO NIGHT

We will have our popular Ham Radio Nights via ZOOM to get your questions answered. It will be held at 7pm on Monday, November 15th. More information, including the link will be published before that date.

NAME THAT RIG?

(Answer on page 12)



YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

CQ SCOUTS _._. _._. SNARS GETS OVER 80 SCOUTS ON THE AIR

October was a very busy month supporting the scouts with ham radio. A special thanks to SNARS hams that helped out on site:

KJ7JXE Jim, KG7QXE Wes, AE6WT Roz, KM6MYK Tim, K6ST Barry; plus all those on the air that spoke to & engaged with the scouts. You all made a

difference in the lives of these young scouts and their introduction to amateur radio. Jamboree on the Air was on Oct 16th and Cub Scout Fun Day was one week later on Oct 23rd.

We had Jamboree on the Air on October 16th at two locations in the Reno area:

(1) St. Albert the Great Catholic Church - Northwest Reno with 15 Cub Scouts on the air with SNARS elmers: AE6WT Roz, KM6MYK Tim

(2) at the Boy Scouts - Camporall in Dog Valley

<http://www.nevadabsa.org/event/2808617>

with over 40 Scouts on the air and over 75 scouts and leaders engaged in amateur radio with SNARS elmers: KJ7JXE Jim, KG7QXE Wes, K6ST Barry



Scout Pack was bivouacked there. Good idea!

As we continued down the road looking for our contact Jim KJ7JXE, I saw areas that were taped off and events taking place. We got there a little after 10:00 am and the event we were there for was from 10 to 2:00 pm. Finally made contact with Jim "Scout Leader"! He took us over where his troop was and the parking area. We quickly unloaded and went to the troop site where we will be setting up.



The area was already to go. Had a canopy up and two tables with chairs to boot and an area open to put up our antenna's, Looking good! The first thing I wanted to do was set up my HF antenna. I brought my Buddipole standard series consisting of a 12ft mast and a tripod plus two coils and whip antenna two arm extensions. I haven't used this antenna in four years. I have another Buddipole at home, It is a Deluxe series with a 18ft mast and a taller tripod, it is set up as a super 20 vertical with extra antenna arms and radials for your information. So I broke out the antenna and noticed it was set up for forty meters, So that's what we will use. Got the antenna set-up in horizontal dipole configuration and the coax ran to the radio. That would be a FT-891 with a LDG Pro 100 II tuner. Love the radio, Love the tuner. Now all I got to do is hook up power. I brought my Bioenno trifold 180 watt solar panel with charger and hooked it to my battery box which contained a Bioenno 30Ah 360 watt-hour Lipo battery. Did a radio check. GOOD TO GO!

Well we are all dressed up and standing by for scouts to be introduced to Amateur Radio. We have Jim KJ7JXE with a FT-897 multi-band and multimode radio setup for VHF / UHF Analog contact, Also Barry K6ST with two HT's one for Analog VHF / UHF and one for UHF Digital Mobile Radio "DMR". And last but not least yours truly Wes KG7QXE on HF and you already know what my equipment is so I won't bore you with that again.



(Continued next page.....)



Following are individual articles from **KG7QXE Wes** at Jamboree on the Air at Dog Valley (Oct 16th), **Tim KM6MYK** at Jamboree on the Air at St Albert Church (Oct 16th), and **KJ7JXE Jim** at Jamboree on the Air at Dog Valley (Oct 16th) & at Cub Fun Day (Oct 23rd).

My JOTA Experience at Dog Valley (Oct 16th) - KG7QXE Wes

Where do I begin? Let's start on the dirt road coming over the rise into the SCOUT JAMBOREE encampment. We (Barry K6ST & I Wes KG7QXE) are now in "DOG VALLEY". As we roll SLOWLY into camp I see Tent's in sections and the amateur radio section were designated with a sign telling people what Boy Scout Troop or Cub

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Continued from previous page

Well here they come! Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts. Also Scout Masters and Leaders, Den mothers, Pack leaders and just Mom's and Dad's supporting their kids. While transitioning from one event to another the scouts and usually accompanied by a adult of sorts i.e. Leaders stop by and check out our event station JAMBOREE ON THE AIR. The first thing is that the kids are drawn to the four Morse Code practice oscillator keys. Jim brought 3 home brew keys and Barry brought a ready built key to play with, And play they did. They discovered the sheet with Morse Code dits and dahs for letters, numbers and punctuations. As expected they tried to spell their name. Hmmm I think that's what it was??

Now it is time for RADIO Stuff. While I was talking to some Leaders and kids about amateur radio Barry got on my HF radio and checked into the Jefferson Noon Net and talked to Stan AA6SC and myself as well. Stan was the Net Control Operator that day. After the Noon Net Stan hung around and talked to some of the kids at our location which was great. I took over the radio and started to check into a JOTA station in Paso Robles, CA. He talked to the kids, Three I think. The conversation was a very mutual exchange. He asked questions and the kids asked questions too! Sometimes I had to coach them. For the most part these kids were fearless. I had one boy who talked on the radio in QSO with a operator in La Pine, Or for fifteen minutes who had never been on a radio before now. Impressive to say the least. Some of the kids and parents not to mention Scout leaders got enthused about Ham Radio and the importance of the hobby. We talked to them about becoming an amateur radio operator and what was required to become one Including the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet on SSB mode. In other words SPEECH.



We decided to stay for a couple more hours instead of leaving at 2:00 pm. We were having fun. During the slow periods we took turns walking to check the other events going on. I walked up to the tomahawk throw passing what appears to be the TUG "O" WAR event. no one was there. While watching the throw I can hear the BLACK POWDER rifle shooting in the distance. Coming back to our event station I can hear and see kids running and screaming toward each other through trees in an open field. I got to believe that was the CIVIL

WAR REENACTMENT event. Looks like they were having fun, Wonder who won???

Well it's about 4:30 pm and we started to break down the station. Jim KJ7JXE helped to pack up the equipment and load up the truck. FYI, Jim was busy with his troop at other events. But! When time allowed he was on the radio with kids as well. Thanks for jumping in KJ7JXE Jim. After all the good-byes and see ya later we roll out slowly. Passing the main camp they blew Retreat exactly at 5:00 pm. Well that's my JOTA experience. As a Life Scout of yesteryears this was a lot of Fun. Scouts Honor!



Special Note: I was taken back a few times watching these Scout Leaders and Pack Leaders, Den Mothers not mention the Mom's and Dad's and helpers. I can see the dedication and devotion to these kids. All I can say is IMPRESSIVE, Bravo!

73, KG7QXE Wes

**Jota - Jamboree on the Air (St Albert Church - Northwest Reno) -
KM6MYK Tim**



(Continued next page.....)

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Continued from previous page

We arrived at St. Alberts around 9am. We selected a space in the NW corner of the playground. Convinced that the large cottonwood trees will provide shade later in the day. We placed the tables under the trees while Roz AE6WT instructed us on how to set up the tripods for the antennas. The cub scouts took turns hammering the stakes in to secure the tripods.

Mike P. (Bear Den Leader) and Paul A. (Committee Member) assembled a two meter and HF antenna. Blake Edwards and myself set up chairs in front of the tables and assisted Roz AE6WT with unloading her car. The scouts played on the adjacent playground. Shortly after 9:45, we had the scouts place several cones in grass to mark off an area around the cables. This area was a "no-go" space. By 10:05 we looked official. I instructed the leaders and the scout to think about what they wanted to ask and share. We had the scout write down their name, what den they belonged to, something that they liked to do and a question they wanted to ask. One scout wrote that he liked to make hotels, we're not sure what this meant but allowed it.

Because of COVID and let's face it, these are 7-9 year old children. Roz AE6WT held the mic and keyed up the first CQ. Each scout was patient and followed Roz's instruction and advice. After each QSO, Roz took the time to explain what was going on and log the contacts. Between the sessions, Roz worked the radio and responded to Scouts in Dog Valley. AE6WT Roz also shared how this was all working and what all the gizmos on the table did. She also shared that she was aware of five year that had their license.

Around 12:30 lunch arrived prompting us to break for a while. At 1pm we started up again. Ryan P. a Webelos made a contact over HF with another scout Ryan C. in Dog Valley. The two boys knew each other which made this contact extra special.

By 1:30 the traffic had subdued and we agreed to start disassembly. After the event my daughter recalled the story of the five year old to me. She asked about getting her license and got excited about being a cub scout with a ham radio.

73, KM6YMK Tim

Jamboree on the Air / Camporall at Dog Valley (Oct 16th) KJ7JXE Jim



Scouts from several units gathered in Dog Valley for the Fall Camporall on Oct. 15-17. In addition to camping in the cool fall weather, the scouts had the opportunity to check out several activity stations. Activities offered included archery, black powder rifle shooting, rope making, tug-of-war, Civil War re-enactments, Native American dance, gold panning, tomahawk and knife throwing, roping, games, and of course Amateur Radio.

Scouts who participated in the Amateur Radio activity had the opportunity to learn some Morse Code and the NATO Phonetic Alphabet. Many also chose to make contacts on the radio, talking to either other local hams on VHF, or HF enthusiasts across the country. This event took place at the same time as JOTA (Jamboree-on-the-Air), a worldwide scouting event where scouts of all levels and backgrounds from different countries can make contacts and speak to other scouts from across the globe. This is a great way for scouts to be able to learn what differences and similarities there are in different scouting organizations around the world. Scouts were able to receive a JOTA contact log which can be used to help them earn their Radio Merit Badge. We had several scouts who were interested in earning their Radio Merit Badge, and some who were interested in earning both.



Simultaneously, we had a group of hams and scout leaders at St. Vincent church in West Reno lead a group of Cub Scouts on the radio, allowing the younger scouts the opportunity to participate in the JOTA fun. Many of them were able to talk to older scouts at the Dog Valley location. The scouts who participated can use their experience on the air to help them fill requirements for several Cub Scout Adventures in communications, electronics and robotics, and more.



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YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Continued from previous page

As a leader in both Scouting and a member of SNARS, I believe that these collaborative activities between SNARS and Scouts (as well as other youth groups) are not only vital to helping today's youth learn about amateur radio, but is also helpful for them to improve their public speaking, learning about electricity and electronics in general, and a great way for them to learn about many of the outdoor aspects that are available in amateur radio such as SOTA (Summits on the Air) and POTA (Parks on the Air). Many kids today spend way too much time with indoor activities that only offer one way communication (video games, tv, etc.). Amateur radio gives them the opportunity to have 2-way conversations with a new group of individuals around the world in multiple ways and offers the ability to participate in the hobby both indoors and outside. It's a great way to "get out there and meet new people".



As a representative of both a local pack and the STEM Committee Chairman for the Zephyr District, I look forward to more collaborative efforts between SNARS and the BSA Nevada Area Council.

* * * * *

CUB SCOUT FUN DAY - OCTOBER 23RD (AT BSA NEVADA AREA COUNCIL, SOUTH RENO) KJ7JXE JIM

Cub Scout Fun Day was on Oct 23rd at the Boy Scouts of America-Nevada Area Council in south Reno with 24 Cub Scouts on the air with SNARS elmers: KJ7JXE Jim, K6ST Barry

The scouts and leaders give a big "Thank You" for all of SNARS support!

On October 23rd, Cub Scouts within the BSA Nevada Area Council gathered at the local scout office to participate in Cub Scout Fun Day. This annual event is one of several activities sponsored by the NAC each year which offers Cub Scouts the opportunity to gather and enjoy some kid friendly fun and games. This year the scouts were able to participate in archery, BB guns, pneumatic rockets, cornhole, and of course - HAM radio.

Scouts enjoyed learning some Morse Code on some kit oscillators, learned the NATO Phonetic Alphabet by spelling out their names, and got on the air to talk to local radio enthusiasts. The scouts who talked on the air received a JOTA (Jamboree-on-the-Air) contact log and can mark off several requirements for Cub Scout Adventures related to communications, electronics and robotics, and more.



As a leader in both Scouting and a member of SNARS, I believe that these collaborative activities between SNARS and Scouts (as well as other youth groups) are not only vital to helping today's youth learn about amateur radio, but is also helpful for them to improve their public speaking, learning about electricity and electronics in general, and a great way for them to learn about many of the outdoor aspects that are available in amateur radio such as SOTA (Summits on the Air) and POTA (Parks on the Air). Many kids today spend way too much time with indoor activities that only offer one way communication (video games, tv, etc.). Amateur radio gives them the opportunity to have 2-way conversations with a new group of individuals around the world in multiple ways and offers the ability to participate in the hobby both indoors and outside. It's a great way to "get out there and meet new people".

As a representative of both a local pack and the STEM Committee Chairman for the Zephyr District, I look forward to more collaborative efforts between SNARS and the BSA Nevada Area Council.

73, KJ7JXE Jim

73, Barry Bettman, K6ST - ARRL Nevada Section Youth Coordinator k6st@arrrl.net

W7SSB's FUN STUFF

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS INC was a military division of NCR. ECI was the parent company of **Signal/One**. Based in Florida in the 60's was run by Dick Ehrhorn W4ETO and Don Fowler W4YET. Ehrhorn went on to found ETO / Alpha Power.



Signal One
Milspec-1030

Signal/One transceivers were ahead of the times with many features such as pass band tuning, built in keyer, speech processing, solid state, digital readout, dual receive and many more.

The main market for them was the military and government agencies. The amateur market like Collins was a secondary market. They were expensive and few hams were able to buy them.

The surviving Signal/One products are sought after and actively collected.^[2] These include the CX7, CX7A, CX7B, CX11 and Milspec models. The last Signal/One radio was a re-engineered ICOM IC-781. Information available indicates there were 1152 Signal Ones built: 850 CX7, 112 CX11, 168 MS1030 (number of "C" versions is not known), 6 MilSpec1030C, 15 MilSpec1030CI Icom IC-781 conversions and 1 Milspec1030E DSP Icom IC-756 Pro conversion.^[4] (They were a maintenance nightmare !).

In more than 60 years in amateur radio I have never seen one up close !

<http://www.wa3key.com/sigone.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNP2H3X5TeU>



Signal/One-modified IC-
781
(Milspec-1030CI)

[http://www.signalone.org/S1%20Docs/SignalOne_2001%20webpage\(1\).pdf](http://www.signalone.org/S1%20Docs/SignalOne_2001%20webpage(1).pdf)

Signal One also manufactured some very expensive Icom IC 781 conversions. (Very Rare)! Due to low sales the company was bought and sold several times through the years. I hope you enjoy the article .

Stay tuned !

73,

Don W7SSB

FUN STUFF FOR NOVEMBER

November actually has NO state QSO parties! Some of the major contests are listed here. The ARRL and NCJ sponsored ones are in bold....

6 Nov 2100 to 8 Nov 0259 1.8-28 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest,
www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

13 Nov 0000 to 14 Nov 2359 3.5-28 WAE DX Contest, RTTY
www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste

13 Nov 2300 to 22 Nov 0300 1.8-14 AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party
www.antiquewireless.org/homepage

14 Nov 1400 to 17 Nov 0800 1.8-144 Classic Exchange, Phone
www.classicexchange.org

20 Nov 0000 to 21 Nov 2359 50-1296 ARRL EME Contest CW Ph Dig
www.arrl.org/eme-contest

20 Nov 2100 to 22 Nov 0259 1.8-28 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB
www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

27 Nov 0000 to 28 Nov 2359 1.8-28 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
CW RST, CQ zone www.cqww.com/rules.htm

Check out the rest here:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2021/November%202021%20Corral.pdf>

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase! The list is slowly but steadily growing as more people can travel, so check back often. Looks like Africa is on tap for November!

Nov 01 to Nov 05	eSwatini	3DA0LP
Nov 01 to Nov 30	Maldives	8Q7RM
Nov 18 to Dec 08	Mali	TZ1CE
Nov 22 to Dec 01	Mauritius	3B8
Nov 24 to Dec 01	Rwanda	9X4X

Check <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> for updates on DXpeditions to make sure they're still a go!

RENO QRP SLOW SPEED CW NET

NEXT NET SESSIONS WILL BE at 10AM PDT. Target frequency 7.045 MHz, if busy search somewhere near that frequency.

THE FOLLOWING SHOULD ALWAYS BE IN YOUR REPORT
NAME, RST, LOCATION, RIG, POWER, ANTENNA.
REMEMBER TO INCLUDE RST IN YOUR REPORT

Feel free to add something else in your exchange.

Take some time to report RST for other OP's or anything else that comes to mind.

Sharing information about you and your equipment will accomplish two things.

First It gives you and everybody else practice sending and copying.
Second It is nice to spend time on the air with your friends. Consider this a QRP meeting on the air.

Relax and have some airtime fun with your friends.
73/72 Ed/WD7Y

NAME THAT RIG (from page 6)

In 1982, **Heathkit** came out with its final Amateur Radio HF transceiver, the **SS-9000**. Originally in kit form as the SS-8000, it was so complicated that few people bought it. As the fully assembled **SS-9000**, some 375 were sold, although that number is both questionable, and very low for **Heathkit**. The cost of the **SS-9000** was \$2795, or about \$7750 today, a rather pricey radio! It was advertised as the radio "with NO options", although it did not include a built-in antenna tuner, or a 12 volt power supply. It had extensive filtering, covered all Amateur bands from 160 through 10 meters including WARC, 100 watts, dual VFOs, and much more. You can look at a copy of the Heath ad for the SS-9000 here to see the full specs.

<https://www.rfcafe.com/references/electrical/images2/heathkit-1982-christmas-catalog-amateur-radio-p8-9.jpg>

This was near the time that Heath got out of the kit business, and the Amateur business as well, having been done in by the many import radios that were becoming available at far lower prices.

10 METER SUNDAY NET

"CQ CQ....CALLING ANY AND ALL STATIONS FOR THE NORTHERN NEVADA SIDE BAND NET GROUP"

That's the opening salvo of an hf 10-meter net that meets every Sunday at 2 pm pacific on 28.350 mhz usb in the 10 meter band.

For the past 12 years, dave, k4sak in reno has participated as net control and he continues to this day.

Anyone can check in with us and are always encouraged and welcomed.

It's a very informal net that gives hams a platform to solicit comments about their transmit audio and a critical assessment of overall on-air quality.

Net participants can describe their antenna projects and other ham shack devices for comments and technical mentoring.

Now in the 2020 time frame, we are experiencing a propagation slump with signals beyond the nearby Reno surroundings hard to come by.

Now towards the end of 2021, there has been a noticeable increase in 10 meter activity, perhaps back to the "hay-day" of more favorable propagation.

Past activity shows stations checking in around the country and around the world.

We may be on the verge of another propagation peak. If so, you will thoroughly enjoy joining the conversation.

73, Dave K4SAK

ARES NEWS

EVENTS CALENDAR

EVENT 2021	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
Sparks Turkey Trot	11/25/21		WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com

NOTE: Plumas ARC always have a need for operators. Go over to some beautiful country and help out the Plumas Amateur Radio Club

THE SPARKS THANKSGIVING TURKEY TROT IS ON THIS YEAR.

THEIR MISSION:

Add a twist to your Thanksgiving tradition by participating in the Scheels Turkey Trot run/walk event. It's a great way to get some exercise while giving back to the community. Whether you're an avid runner coming out for the 10K or simply looking to take a 2-mile untimed walk or run around the Sparks Marina, the Scheels Turkey Trot is also a fun kick off to the holiday season.

The Thanksgiving Day event starts at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of Scheels. Participants can choose to do either the 10K run or the two-mile untimed walk or run around the Sparks Marina. The 10K, which equates to a little more than six miles, uses city streets, as well as the local bike path.

OUR MISSION:

To provide clear, concise communications between Water Station Captains and Event Coordinators. To expedite emergency communications between Water stations, Event Coordinators, Net Control and Emergency Responders. To ensure a safe and enjoyable event and to support the awareness and growth of Amateur Radio in the community. Let me know if you want to help out.

ONE DAY HAM CRAM

December 11 is my final "One Day Ham Cram" for the year where we review for the Technician and the General test questions focusing only on the correct answer. The final review before taking the test. For the go-getters, you can sign up for review of either one, NOT both, but you can test for both.

If you know anyone studying for either test, they MUST register on www.snars.org/oneday to schedule you for the review and the test. No walk-ins.

All the details are on the webpage.

Bob Miller WA6MTY

Emergency Coordinator for Washoe County

Amateur Radio Emergency Service

775 843-5952 www.wcares.us wa6mtty@gbis.com

HAM RADIO NIGHT

3rd Monday of each month at 7PM PT on Zoom
Join together and Elmer each other for Ham Radio
Night on **November 15, 2021, 8PM**

The topic smaller breakout groups will be:

HF ANTENNAS

ANALOG VHF/UHF

DMR/FUSION

HOMEBREWING

Each participant can move themselves around to different breakout topics in zoom conferencing to enjoy.

If you have any questions or would like to be of service as an Elmer, please contact K6ST Barry k6st@arrrl.net

Feel free to register below for our
next Ham Radio Tech Night, SNARS (virtual on Zoom conferencing) November 15, 2021
7:00PM PDT

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvceGtrjwjEtdgPPffHm1j2FJE1kWCCvH4>



NVQP REPRISE

TURN OUT THE LIGHT, THE PARTY'S OVER.

BY KG7D

This year's Nevada QSO Party was different from previous years. Different in several ways. One way is the sun is waking up from its transition from cycle 24 to 25. That helped long range propagation. Due in part to a DX contest going on, I heard lots of stations I haven't heard in several years. I even worked Sweden. *Needed that one DX multi ya know.* One of the most interesting and different things was the short range propagation. I was able to hear several stations from Washoe county.



ALMOST THERE

Subrina – KI7OAL and myself have been out to the Nye, Churchill, and Lander county convergence quite a few times in the last few years. We go for the 7th Area QP as well as the Nevada QP.



ANTENNA NUMBER 2 BUILD



2 STATIONS- 2 ANTENNA- 400 FOOT OF COAX



ACTUAL SURVEY MONUMENT

This was the first time we were able to make contacts within Northern Nevada. We chatted with several familiar voices. At one point I dialed across two guys, obviously talking about the NV QP. When they made their exchange, I needed two of the three counties they exchanged. So I waited for the conversation to wain and spoke up, *"KG7D, may I work both of you before you move on?"* Turns out it was our own Jim-W6US and another station. Jim was kind enough to let me work the other station so I could grab a multiplier. Then Jim and I made our exchange and logging another multiplier for both of us. A quick chat and we moved on to make more contacts.

Seemed everyone was more relaxed this year. I spent as much time talking to people as I did making quick contacts. One gentleman even came back to me later in the day. He'd looked up where we were on Goggle earth and wanted to know about our camp and what kind of portable setup we had. I also talked to a couple of PO-TA stations, as well as a couple of Special Event stations. We made their exchange with the information required for their log. Then made the exchange with the information required for my log. Worked out well and put proper contacts in everyone's log. Even the PA stations were friendly. Not once did I hear *"I ONLY WANT YOUR STATE! I DON'T CARE WHAT COUNTY YOUR IN!"* I've heard that so many times in the past. Last year I just refused to work PA stations because of this. This year they were even answering my CQ, PA stations never answer my CQ. Everyone was more relaxed than in previous years.



NYE-CHURCHILL-LANDER

(Continued next page)

NVQP REPRISE

(Continued from previous page)

I talked to a new ham that had just upgraded. He came back to my CQ and explained he didn't know if he was allowed to speak up and that I was only his second HF contact. I explained he was not only allowed, but encouraged to join in. We worked out what his section was, and I gave him a quick explanation of how things worked. He thanked me and said now he knew how it worked, he was going to dial around and make more contacts.

As always I logged all four parties at once and sent all four logs off. I didn't have as many Arizona contacts as previous years, but had a lot more South Dakota. It was disappointing not to make any RTTY / PSK contacts. Well, I did make one.

This is NEVADA, support your state QSO Party! If you missed it, YOU MISSED IT. Get off your ass next year and get on the air. 73, Greg

* * * * *

MY NEVADA QSO PARTY 2021 EXPERIENCE

BY W4FLL

Last year I wanted to activate Mineral County for the Nevada QSO Party because it was, at the time, the only county not activated, but things didn't work out and I got chased away with only one contact.

This year I again planned to set up in Mineral County, but I chose a site on the west edge of the county, right on the California line, at 7000'. It was 24 miles away from anything, and very quiet with beautiful views. Originally I wanted to get further east, but heavy duty powerlines joined the road and made it too noisy.

On Saturday morning, at what is generally known as oh-dark-thirty, I drove from Carson to my chosen site, arriving at around 0700. The access was via a rough dirt road 200' from the state line. From there I drove about a ¼ mile north to where I could find a clear, reasonably level area.



I got my gear out and set up and man, was it cold! This wasn't a big surprise, but my chosen mode of operation was CW, and by the time I actually got on the air my hands were so cold I was making ridiculous mistakes with my key. It's funny ... I usually deploy an ez-up to protect me from the sun and had set it up here as well. But it was so cold, I had to move the ez-up away so I could get the warmth from the rising sun. I was even thinking about firing up my Coleman lantern so I could heat my hands.

My equipment consisted of a Yaesu FT857D to start with, connected to a Buddipole vertical running 100 watts on 20m. I've had real good luck with the Buddipole in vertical configuration. Later I used my Elecraft KX3 connected to an EFHW at 10 watts. I also tried 40m but had no luck. I don't use a tuner. I bring a RigExpert antenna analyzer and always tune my antennas to be resonant before I sit down. I've made



WOKE TO SNOW MONDAY MORNING

hundreds of contacts this way.

Once I got started I made several contacts, with a couple of actual pileups. Many were on the east coast. I was attempting to use N1MM to log my QSOs, but I couldn't get it to "talk" to the radio, even though it worked when I tried it before the trip. Ain't that always the way? "Gee honey, it worked when I tested it."

After about three hours, I had 28 CW contacts in the log, but responses to my calls were dropping off dramatically. I switched to SSB on the KX3 with 10 watts and made 2 contacts with stations from the Arizona QSO Party. After that, nuttin'.

Around 1300 it was time for lunch so I took a break, fully intending to resume ops later. Set up the stove and cooked myself a great cheeseburger. Now I'm not bashful about sharing, but about half an hour later I heard, but didn't see, a bear in the rocks behind me. I made some noise, but I think the odors from



my food made a bigger impression. The bear wasn't going away. I had planned to camp overnight, and had brought my tent and all the gear, but this changed my mind. I just didn't have any interest in being joined by this guy during the night while in my tent. So, figuring that I had at least successfully activated the county, I packed up and headed home. I would like to have stayed, but with age comes wisdom I guess.

All in all a really enjoyable experience. I always enjoy operating remotely, the more remote the better. Each deployment is a learning experience and never a disappointment. Already looking forward to next year. Without the bears. 73, Tom W4FLL

EDITOR'S NOTE: More next month! If you'd like to have YOUR NVQP 2021 adventure, no matter how elegant or simple, documented, send it to me! WB2AWQ@ARRL.net

KF7KTC HAM SWAP and SEPTEMBER VHF CONTEST RESULTS

SWAP MEET (SEPT. 11):

It was great to see all of the turnout. I hope all of you found some good buys, and made some sales if you were selling. I bought an old Icom IC-551 6 meter only rig. It is mains powered, and puts out up to 10 watts PEP. It's a nice little radio for QRP operations, and works well.



I sold at bargain prices, or gave away all of the things I brought to the swap meet, so it was a good day for me. There was a lot of things that I didn't want to ship to the Philippines.



THE SEPTEMBER VHF CONTEST (Revised):

I stayed home this year, and worked from my home station. Last year I worked portable, and there were the same smoky conditions from fires as there were this year. The forests were closed again, so that was the reason for my choice of locations. I didn't want to try work-

ing from a mountaintop in the smoke, although I could have traveled to McClellan Peak again. I don't work 2 meters often enough to have a permanent setup at home, so I set up the portable 2 meter gear I use, with my homebrew 2 meter Hentenna, using a Yaesu 2900R for 2 meters, running 75 watts. I used a Comet CHV-5X multi-band antenna for 6 meters, running a Kenwood 570S at 100 watts on 6 meters. I operated the FM only category on both 6 meters and 2 meters. I thought about doing 222Mhz on a third radio and antenna setup, but there are not enough stations here in N. Nevada using that band to make it worth the extra work setting up a station. Finally, I listened on 446.000Mhz simplex, but did not call. I didn't hear any stations.

I had 11 contacts, for an expected score of 33. All contacts were in DM09 and DM08. Three of the contacts were mobile. All but one contact was on 2 meters. The stations I contacted were in Reno, Carson City, Fernley, Minden, Gardnerville, South Lake Tahoe and Dayton. That single 6 meter FM contact (in Dayton) was just the second 6 meter FM contact I have had since I started operating as an amateur. From the raw scores published by ARRL for the contest, it appears that in the Single Operator, FM Only category I was fortunate to take First Place for the Nevada Section, and Third Place for the Pacific Division. I am happy to carry our club name in my logs, and always make a point of it. I don't know if any other members worked the contest in other categories and didn't send in the club name with their logs. But, I didn't have any actual contacts made with our members.

It was a good contest, but here in Nevada you have to work hard on this one. Large metro areas are easy, but our state takes patience and effort to make the contacts.



73, Jon KF7KTC



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2021 - 6:00PM

At Chin Chin plus Zoom

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:00 PM

Board of Directors:

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	P	Barry Bettman, K6ST	P	John Miller, N7JDM	P
Bill Jones, AE7OX	P	John Byerly, N7ROJ	P	Wes Vick, KG7QXE	P
Jim Shepherd, W6US	P	Doug Edmondo, W7DBE	P		

attendance: None

2. Approval of Minutes - Discussion/Action

The September 2021 meeting minutes were approved

3. Approval of Agenda - Discussion/Action

The Agenda was approved

4. Reports

A. President's Report – Thanks to the team for the storage shed work including Ray Foster who helped out. NVQSO Party sounds like it was successful. The new repeaters have been ordered.

B. Secretary Report – 478 Members, 44 VE's, not a lot of members this month. Nominations open until the end of the month. No other business related items.

C. Treasurer – September 2021 End of Month, Operating: \$9,593, Savings: \$16,883, Self Insurance: \$12,739, Paypal: \$1,510, Convention: \$4,212. Net Monthly \$3,587, net YTD: \$11,211. Memberships 34, Donations year to date \$6,406 (Amazon \$177, Members \$6,157, Paypal \$72)

D. Technical Team – Pat

Repeater Upgrade – repeaters ordered. The Dave Metz donated machine will be placed on GSR (147.300). NT7Q noted that they are doing work, new racks being installed, grounding plate installed, lower Peavine looking like a site again. SNARS not responsible for fence but suggested we need to remove the fence posts. John to speak with Pat about the DMR machine on Davidson being down.

E. Control Operators / Trustee

No report -

F. Events

NVQSO Outbrief – Jim indicated that they have received 137 log entries and noted a pretty good turnout. A couple of county line operators had impressive QSO totals and out of state CW did well. FT-8 didn't fare well this year but 10 meters opened up for a lot of contacts.

G. Education & Youth Activities

1. JOTA is the 15th, 16th and 17th in Dog valley and a scout camp, Cub scouts on the 17th also. Howie sending an out reach (SNARS System or DMR SNARS between 10am and 2pm Saturday). Following weekend on the 23rd, Cub Scout Fun day at the Scout Head quarters – doing something similar.
2. Ham Radio night on the 18th
3. Next speaker on Nano VMA in November.

H. Noon Net - Noon Net Manager – Bringing in a possible new N.C.O.

5. Old Business

Storage Shed move – Shelves are in, need to schedule equipment moves from the old shed and other locations.

6. New Business

Elections – Nominations open through October. Ballots in November.

7. Board member and Public Comments

During this time members and board of directors may speak on any topic regardless if the item was on the agenda:

Barry – Cabellas plaque working	Wes – Nothing	John Miller – no travel plans, up to help
Tony – Nothing	Jim – Nothing	equipment move
John B. - Nothing	Bill Jones – Shared a story about the new storage shed	

8. Adjournment - Action

- A. Next Meeting: November 10th, 2021. Location Chin Chin plus Zoom
- B. Call For Adjournment.